

That the report now read be adopted, and that it is the opinion of this meeting that the thanks of the diggers and storekeepers

Resolution 2.—Proposed by Mr. C. F. Nair
seconded by Mr. H. J. Holyoake.

That inasmuch as some meetings were held that those persons who took part in the late disturbances bore, to a great extent, no responsibility for the same, and that it was deemed expedient on the part of the then Camp-officers at Ballarat, their mission well brought about a collision that ended in bloodshed, and that in consequence of the refusal of many of our fellow-diggers, a large reward offered for the apprehension of others—it seems it right to petition his Excellency the Governor of Victoria, that he will graciously consider whether it would be conducive to the peace and well-being of the community.

To his Excellency Sir Charles Hotham, K.C.B., Lieutenant-Governor of the colony of Victoria.

This petition of the undersigned inhabitants of Ballarat

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your Excellency of a magistrate in the case of Bentley, we led to the first demonstration of violence as the officers of the law were not prepared to take any notice of the rioters, who were armed with stones and bricks, and who were not restrained by any law. Many amongst the diggers were unjust magistrates was the guilty person, and the individual receiving of punishment, and not those who were exasperated by the want of justice.

The punishment of these men caused great excitement in the population at Ballarat—the diggers feeling that the magistrates were being unnecessarily sacrificed, as your Excellency would have dismissed the magistrates who had dismissed Bentley.

Whilst the diggers were thus excited, they were roused to a pitch of madness by the ill-considered search for unemployed diggers by an armed force from the camp, which led to the first riot.

The diggers were fired upon, and several taken prisoner. Your petitioners would furthermore urge, that as your Excellency has been pleased to grant the petition of the people of one or more American citizens, who can hardly be held culpable as British subjects, if any cause there be, your Excellency will be pleased to give guidance and aid, as is so often the case.

Your petitioners fully believe that your Excellency has at heart the law and peace of this country, and we expected to find that nothing will commence more to the restoration of right between the Executive and the people—the slaying of Irishmen, than the granting of the petition of the people of the United States, should your Excellency grant our request, the law does not prevent it. Diggers have been shot, and many suffered by persons of the same name.

The innumerable law suitcases requires ten-penny for me and your petitioners humbly trust that your Excellency will be pleased to consider the petition of the petitioners in this petition. And your petitioners will ever pray.

Mr. Ogier, in supporting the second resolution, said, "I object to calling names. My quarrel is not with sons, but with principles; and for my part, with regard to what has taken place, I cannot but express surprise—not that such a calamity has taken place, but that it had not taken place before. I cannot think that a system for collecting a revenue could have been devised more calculated to bring the people into collision with the authorities than the system

the gold-license. Many of the officers of Government must regret as much as yourselves unhappy events which have occurred, but had their duties to perform. (A voice: They overstepped their duty.) Gentlemen, it is difficult say who has not overstepped his duty: that is the reason why I support the motion and ask for a general amnesty. You are not anarchists, but you rebel against those who have invaded the British constitution. What is the great principle of that constitution? do justice to everyone, be he whom he may. In Latrobe's time, the diggers should have been duly

by acceding to their just demands. There is no more fitting for the redress of grievances than the holding of a legislative assembly. You were promised representatives. But instead of saying, if you elect and proper persons the Crown would nominate to the government nominated persons whom you nominated, and then they hugged themselves with their hands that they had silenced your clamour. I do not object to the new constitution being delayed, because I think it will be returned better than it was despatched; but why should you not be represented in the meantime? Have not the diggers advanced the progress of the

to be the freemen of London contributed to the prosperity of England before the Reform Bill, when they enjoyed the franchise not as freeholders but as freemen. But, even if the digger is not considered entitled to vote under the present constitution, why should every votekeeper on the gold fields, who occupies a store worth ten pounds per annum, be excluded, on this cause, in addition to paying a tax of fifty pounds per annum as occupier of Crown lands, he lives under a military law? Gentlemen, you must use moral, political force, and you will enlist the sympathy of civilised nations on your side when you agitate for

At this moment Mr. T. S. Coe rode up to the meeting, and was requested by one of the committee to address them. He said: Gentlemen, I have been suddenly requested to address you upon the subject of your proposed petition for a general amnesty to all who have taken any part in the late unprovoked disturbances upon these dignities. I do so with much pleasure, because I think it is a proper request for you to make, and it would be an act of justice on the part of the government to grant. The government have passed a bill of indemnity to exempt their officers

from the consequences of their acts, and I think it fair that the diggers should also be exempted from punishment. A bill of indemnity means that they have done something wrong, and therefore require the protection of the Council. The government, therefore, confessing itself to be in the wrong, having broken law, should extend the indemnity to all. I cannot justify the acts of those who took up arms and entrenched themselves in what has been called a state of siege, but which, except in name, bore no resemblance to a fortification. I think it was a foolish and ill-vised measure, executed in a state of excitement,

without any real and definite object or attack on government. (Cheers.) It is but right I should say to you that it is an illegal act to drill, and with your hands to take up a menacing attitude against Government: at the same time the law has punishment for such an offence, and that punishment is not that you are to be slaughtered on the spot. A number of men are assembled together, and one of them fires at the police or troops, it does not warrant indiscriminate firing into the assembly. You must recollect that you are but a section of the community and are not justified because you suffer under oppression.

particular grievance if at once resorting to arms. The greatest leaders of the people, and one who had the greatest influence in the British Parliament, Mr. O'Connell, was the greatest opponent of physical force. His advice was, to agitate, agitate, agitate. And as you agitate, agitate, agitate, and firmly insist that you be redressed, backed by argument and reason, it will produce more effect, and ensure the sympathy of your fellow colonists in a speedier and more lasting manner than any number of armed men that you could assemble. I know full well that you are desirous of the proper channel of communicating your grievances to the proper authorities, and I am glad to hear that

to visit China, "as you are not represented; and that it will be long before you will possess that means of communication, although it has been promised to be by the Government, for even in England the Government measures travelled by the parliamentary train and here they prefer a bullock-dray in the winter months and a horse-dray in the summer; nevertheless, I say again, and I feel sure that if by popular demonstration and argument you can show that you are suffering under any grievance, that you will be listened to in the future, if not here, at least in the next session of the year, and I have little of which to be anxious, contented, and liberal feeling, which he has often often-ventured here to express." "What he has said is

be obeyed, so that I, and by none should it be obeyed with greater fidelity than those who make the law. The Government must know that it has broken the law, else why a Bill of Indemnity; but the dignity broken the law, and the law must be avenged, the vengeance of the law must be seen, as by slaughter of fifty victims. If more are required, not justice that demands the sacrifice, but revenge. The Bill of Indemnity should extend to all or none. (The learned gentleman was listened to with the greatest attention, and was loudly cheered during address and at the close.)

Resolution 3, Proposed by Mr. Dyte, seconded by Mr. H. Nicholls:—

That in order to secure the enactment of laws embodying political suggestions mentioned in the report of Messrs. Hunt, Gilson, and Wanles, it is expedient to appoint a new committee for the purpose of drawing a prospectus and framing a petition to the Legislature, to be signed by the members of the League, and carrying out of an organized and purely constitutional agency in order that the people may be fully and fairly represented in the fertile lands of the colony thrown open for cultivation.

Resolved—

That the committee appointed at the last meeting do now report, as the special work they were appointed to be accomplished, that the following gentlemen be appointed to this meeting to be

At the close of the meeting a hat was sent round for subscriptions; several pounds were collected. The cheers were given for the Press, and the meeting dissolved.

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4th.—For 8000 sheep, without stations, deliverable at them by the end of February, presenting a good chance to buyers for the Port Phillip market.
Apply to Messrs. **BUYERS and LEARMONTH**; or to Mr. **F GARLAND**, Church-hill.

FOR PRIVATE SALE.—A first-rate gig horse, Stanhope gig, 1860 sets gig harness, saddle and bridle, all good condition, the property of Mr. Muller, who is about leaving per Madras. Apply to B. THOMSON, H. E. I. Co.'s Horse Repository, Bugh-street.

having been turned out of Gibson's, Leicester-square, will guarantee much more than is here expressed; and lastly, The Chestnut Gelding, is one of those well bred upstanding horses which alone is singularly adapted for such a conveyance as the one he now fills.

Articles are to inspect her, at Brodie and Craig's Wharf, where she now lies, previously to the time of sale.
Further particulars at the office of the auctioneers.
Terms at sale.

Covering over engine and saws
Covering and two carpenters' sheds
Office and storeroom. Also
Fifty rolls patent felt.
expired lease of yard, with blacksmith's shop, until July
1886, at the yearly rental of \$13.

at of 5 pcy cent. to each buyer.
and coloured view of the house and grounds an ROW.
THE BELKAPL'S Rooms.
or particulars may be obtained on application to the
pers, or to T. J. Fisher, Esq., at the Racine, 211, George-

